

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claims 1-3, 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,934,387 to Tuunanan (“Tuunanan”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,560,437 to Dickel et al. (“Dickel”).

Claims 4 and 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,699,261 to Muona (“Muona”).

Claims 4 and 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tuunanan.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tuunanan.

Claims 1, 4 and 6-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,343,367 to Mashimo (“Mashimo”).

Response to the Office Action

Claims 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

While Applicant does not necessarily acquiesce in the propriety of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Applicant has amended claims 1, 4 and 6-10 to address the Examiner’s concerns described at paragraph 3 of the Office Action, to advance prosecution, and to place the application in better form for appeal. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is requested.

Applicant filed a Notice of Appeal on October 31, 2006, and will address the remaining claim rejections in the appeals process.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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